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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/798,189

03/11/2004

Kil Jae Chang

KJC-10

5309

7590

01/12/2007

John R. Flanagan
P.O. Box 2629
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EXAMINER

SHAPIRO, JEFFERY A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3653

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

01/12/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/798,189

Applicant(s)

CHANG, KIL JAE

Examiner

Jeffrey A. Shapiro

Art Unit

3653

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 5 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 6-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/11/04.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-4 and 7-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Schwarzli (US 5,924,542).

As described in **Claims 1 and 10**, Schwarzli discloses a front cover plate, as illustrated in figure 1, first and second coin slots (12, 14), a carrier wheel (40) and first and second coin recesses (42, 44), both angularly spaced apart.

Note that it is inherent that a rear retainer plate or functional equivalent thereof would be used to segregate the coin mechanism from the rest of the machine. See also US 5,259,532), incorporated by reference into Schwarzli at col. 3, lines 49-51.

Schwarzli further discloses means for engaging said carrier wheel within said first and second recesses on said rear side of said carrier wheel (30, 30d, 31, 32, 32d and 33). See also figures 8-10.

Schwarzli further discloses means for allowing insertion of the first coin while preventing removal of the second coin, as is apparent from figures 1 and 8.

See also Applicant's specification at paragraphs 3-7 for further description of Schwarzli.

As described in **Claims 2 and 3**, Schwarzli discloses a blocking latch (70) that is pivotally mounted to shaft (18). See col. 5, lines 44-65.

As described in **Claim 4**, Schwarzli discloses coil spring (25) and pivotal latch (24).

As described in **Claim 7**, Schwarzli discloses a shaft (18) and handle (16) in figures 3-5.

As described in **Claim 8**, Schwarzli discloses a ratchet device (26) with spring-loaded pawl (24). See also col. 3, line 51-col. 4, line 12.

As described in **Claim 9**, Schwarzli discloses first and second detents (30, 32). See figure 8 and col. 4, lines 12-22.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsuiki (US 4,350,239). Schwarzli discloses the coin actuation mechanism described above. Schwarzli does not expressly disclose, but Tsuiki discloses a carrier wheel (8) having a coin recess (5) that accepts a different number of coins in one or both recesses. See Tsuiki, col. 2, lines 35-50.

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have exchanged the carrier wheel of Schwarzli with a carrier wheel having two recesses, each recess able to handle one or more stacked coins, as taught by Tsuiki,

for the purpose of allowing a wider range of monetary value to be accepted by the vending machine. Also see Tsuiki at col. 1, lines 12-23.

Allowable Subject Matter


5. Claim 5 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.


6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jeffrey A. Shapiro whose telephone number is (571)272-6943. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patrick H. Mackey can be reached on (571)272-6916. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JAS


January 6, 2007


PATRICK MACKEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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